

20 MAR 2000

SUBJECT GROUP 5700-5799 EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL RELATIONS

SUBGROUP 5760 - ORGANIZATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, SOCIETIES, INDIVIDUALS
AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES

5760.1 The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society and American Red Cross. Established to provide support to our military members and their families. These service providers have offices in the Navy Family Service Center, Norfolk. The following is furnished to assist in accessing these organizations' services:

a. Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. The Hampton Roads Auxiliary, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) consists of the main office and shipboard branch at the Navy Family Services Center, Norfolk, Building SDA-344 in the Personnel Support Mall, just off Hampton Boulevard at Baker Street. Branch offices are located at: NAVPHIBASE Little Creek; NAS Oceana; NAVMEDCEN Portsmouth; WPNSTA Yorktown; FCTCLANT; and NAVSECGRUACT Northwest. NMCRS is a private, non-profit organization, sponsored by the Department of the Navy, but receives no government funding. The Navy and Marine Corps conduct an annual fund drive during March. One hundred percent of the funds raised are used for relief purposes - no administrative costs are deducted. Assistance is given as interest-free loans or outright grants. These loans and grants are available for emergency needs, including rent, utilities, food, emergency travel in time of death or illness, funeral expenses, medical bills after CHAMPUS or other insurance payments, dental care, for fire or other disasters, loss of pay records or allotment checks, theft of funds, and certain car repairs. Other services offered include: budget counseling and consumer education, administration of educational loans and grants, layettes for newborns, visiting nurses, food pantry, thrift shops, volunteer opportunities and widow's assistance. NMCRS maintains reciprocal agreements with the American Red Cross, Army Emergency Relief, Coast Guard Mutual Aid, and the Air Force Aid Society. Navy and Marine Corps personnel can obtain assistance from these agencies in areas without nearby naval facilities. The Society National Headquarters stands ready to help stranded personnel. The Hampton Roads Auxiliary, Shipboard Branch, offers aid aboard approximately 60 ships in the Hampton Roads area. These ships have NMCRS Representatives on board who are trained and qualified to administer financial aid to crewmembers. After normal working hours, limited NMCRS emergency funds or food assistance are available from the Navy Family Services Center, Norfolk.

b. American Red Cross. To contact the American Red Cross for emergency communications or to seek financial assistance, active duty military and their immediate family members should call their toll free number. For all other requests such as disaster assistance, health and safety classes, volunteer services, blood services and language band, contact any of the local offices listed in Appendix A.